

“§ 2339D. Terrorist offenses resulting in death

“(a) PENALTY.—A person who, in the course of committing a terrorist offense, engages in conduct that results in the death of a person, shall be punished by death or imprisoned for any term of years or for life.

“(b) TERRORIST OFFENSE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘terrorist offense’ means—

“(1) international or domestic terrorism as defined in section 2331;

“(2) a Federal crime of terrorism as defined in section 2332b(g);

“(3) an offense under this chapter;

“(4) section 175, 175b, 229, or 831 of this title;

“(5) section 236 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2284); or

“(6) an attempt or conspiracy to commit an offense described in paragraph (1), (2), (3), (4), or (5).”.

(b) CHAPTER ANALYSIS.—The chapter analysis of chapter 113B of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting at the end the following:

“2339D. Terrorist offenses resulting in death.”.

(c) AGGRAVATING FACTORS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3591(a)(1) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking “or section 2381” and inserting “2339D, or 2381”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3592(b) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in the heading, by striking “AND TREASON” and inserting “, TREASON, AND TERRORISM”; and

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the heading, by striking “OR TREASON” and inserting “, TREASON, OR TERRORISM”; and

(ii) by striking “or treason” and inserting “, treason, or terrorism”.

SEC. 3. DENIAL OF FEDERAL BENEFITS TO TERRORISTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 113B of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 2339E. Denial of Federal benefits to terrorists

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Any individual who is convicted of a Federal crime of terrorism (as defined in section 2332b(g)) shall, as provided by the court on motion of the Government, be ineligible for any or all Federal benefits for any term of years or for life.

“(b) FEDERAL BENEFIT DEFINED.—As used in this section, ‘Federal benefit’ has the meaning given that term in section 421(d) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 862(d)).”.

(b) CHAPTER ANALYSIS.—The chapter analysis of chapter 113B of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting at the end the following:

“2339E. Denial of Federal benefits to terrorists.”.

REMEMBERING GENERAL BILL CREECH

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a man of remarkable leadership, dedication, and courage and to join Nevadans and Americans in mourning the loss of retired Air Force General Bill Creech.

As chairman of the Military Readiness Subcommittee, I have learned a great deal about what it has taken and what it will continue to take for our armed services to be the top military in the world, bar none. For the strength, effectiveness, and success of

today's Air Force, this nation owes a debt of gratitude to Bill Creech.

Creech started as a private in the Air Force in 1944, and as he rose 14 rungs to four-star general, he never forgot what it was like to be at the bottom. During almost 40 years of service to this nation, he flew 280 missions as a combat pilot and was decorated 39 times, including 22 awards for bravery in combat.

In 1960, he came to Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas where he was director of operations for the “Top Gun” Fighter Weapons School and during which his relationship to southern Nevada first formed.

In 1978, he earned his fourth star and became commander of the Tactical Air Command, or TAC, at Langley Air Force Base in Virginia. During his 6½ years as commander, Creech showed the Air Force how to get the job done, and his leadership continues to be a lesson to us all. Under his direction, TAC's productivity improved by 80 percent and resulted in \$12 billion of savings for the government.

And while Creech cut out the fat and waste, he oversaw the development of a new generation of air fighters including many modern jets as well as our prized Stealth fighter that eludes radar detection. Creech also used his experiences in Vietnam to develop night-flying tactics that led to our victories in the Persian Gulf War and Iraq.

After his retirement from the military, Creech became an internationally recognized management consultant with a best-selling book on total quality management based on his success restructuring the Air Force. For anyone who manages a single office or a multi-billion dollar corporation, Creech's message is invaluable. By rewarding accomplishments, creating pride in ownership, and developing a team atmosphere, the human factor endures and success results.

To southern Nevadans, Bill Creech will always hold a special place in our hearts for his loyalty and dedication to our beloved Thunderbirds, the air demonstration team that calls Nellis Air Force Base home. A Thunderbird pilot who flew 125 demonstration shows, Creech was once referred to as “the father of the Thunderbirds,” and he believed that the Thunderbirds inspired young people to join the Air Force.

The Thunderbirds exist today because Bill Creech stood up for them. After four pilots were killed in flight, he publicly stated that if the team suffered an accident during his tenure he would resign. We are grateful that he took that stand. I have had the honor of watching the Thunderbirds in action on many occasions. They display the power and awesomeness of our Air Force and the dedication of people like Bill Creech who lift this nation to new heights so that we may all continue to soar.

To Bill's wife, Caroline, I offer the condolences and admiration of Nevadans and Americans. This great Nation

that Bill Creech risked his life for and lived his life for will always be grateful for his contributions.

THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION 50TH ANNIVERSARY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2003

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of S. 1375, the Small Business Administration 50th Anniversary Reauthorization Act of 2003. This bill revitalizes existing SBA programs and brings to life new pilot programs, all of which promote the demands and growth of the small business community. I commend the Chair, Senator SNOWE, for passing this bill through the Small Business Committee with unanimous support.

Upon final passage of this bill, we will take a giant step toward improving and refining the SBA and its programs. With the new provisions that enhance Agency recordkeeping and realign program operations under a more appropriate department, it is clear that Agency accountability and oversight will be strengthened. In addition, small businesses will benefit from improvements in the lending programs, greater access to capital, new innovations in the entrepreneurial programs, expansion of procurement programs, and improved training and assistance provisions.

According to the SBA's Office of Advocacy, small businesses represent more than 99.7 percent of all employers, employ more than half of all private sector employees, and generate 60 to 80 percent of net new jobs annually. Given these statistics and the difficult financial times we face in today's economy, I urge Congress to continue to nurture the needs of the small business community. We must show enthusiastic support for this bill, which I am confident will provide the SBA with greater tools to keep pace with the ever-changing global economy and to serve the small business community in a more effective and efficient manner. To act otherwise could jeopardize this Nation's much-needed job growth and innovation.

I refer to an important small business program titled the Historically Underutilized Business Zone Contracting Program, or as it is commonly referred to, the HUBZone Program. This small-business program was one of my personal priorities as former chairman of the Senate Small Business Committee. It was established in 1997 with the intent to create jobs in severely economically distressed communities, both rural and urban. In addition, the HUBZone program provides a federal contracting preference as an incentive for small businesses to locate in these low-income areas. The jobs created by the HUBZone Program bring money to those blighted areas and create a demand for more goods and services, which leads to the creation of more small businesses and increased commerce in the area. Little